

## Today in Worship

Phrases from today's hymn of response, *Let Truth and Mercy Find Here*, will guide us toward images that embody segments of our worship service — praise, confession, proclamation, and response.


Listening Assist Devices are available. Please see our sound technician or an usher for assistance. Large print hymn sheets are also available upon request for visually impaired persons. An usher can provide a copy for you.

Worship care is available for infants, toddlers and preschoolers during worship. Our greeters are available to help you navigate our building. A Worship Cart with activities to engage children in the pew is located in the Commons. Children's Worship is available for K-2nd graders during the sermon.

Nearly 65% of people at Highland use online giving to make financial gifts to the church. We invite you to be one of them! Scan the QR code in the section below to be directed to our online giving page.

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### Notes and News for the Community of Faith

- **Worship in February and March** — Our upcoming proclaimers are: Sally Evans (Feb. 23), and Jim England (Mar. 2).
- **Children's Bible study and music teacher appreciation month continues!** Honor a children's teacher, past or present, by making a donation to our Sacred Space Campaign and writing a note of encouragement and appreciation on a paper heart. Visit our table in the Commons outside the sanctuary or in the Children's Commons. 
- **The Anti-Racism Team invites you to write a Thank You note to Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde**, Episcopal Bishop and priest of the Washington National Cathedral, for her bravery in defending the marginalized. Thank you notes are available in the Commons.
- **Wednesday Nights: Frank Woggon's book *The Empathic God: A Clinical Theology of At-onement*** constructs a reinterpretation of the Christian narrative of salvation from the perspective of a spiritual care practitioner, suggesting a faithful Christian practice of participating in God's ongoing work of salvation. Join Frank as he discusses his book in three sessions, [February 19, 26, and March 12](#). We meet just after 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.
- **The Finance Ministry Group is considering selling Foree House, Highland's rental house at 2120 Grinstead Drive.** We are anticipating an informational meeting with congregation members over Zoom on Sunday, February 23. Please watch for emails and the newsletter for more information.
- **Join us for Ash Wednesday on March 5 at 6:15 PM in the sanctuary.** We will gather for a time of reflection, prayer, music, and sharing of ashes as we begin the season of Lent.
- **Upcoming Events:**
  - February 18: Senior Adult Potluck Luncheon/Board Games, 12:00 Noon, Fellowship Hall
  - February 21-23: Youth Winter Retreat
  - March 5: Ash Wednesday
  - March 15: Jean Janes Yard Sale

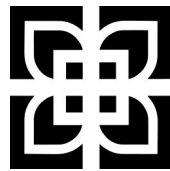


## HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

### SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 16, 2025

8:45 AND 11:15 A.M.



### HIGHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

*A thinking, feeling, healing  
community of faith*

*Our Mission...* God's Love compels us to cultivate a safe, welcoming community of faith where all are challenged to discover, grow, and serve, as together we boldly live out the worship that is our very lives.

Jerre and Frank Bassett  
CUSTODIANS

Cheryl Davis  
OFFICE MANAGER

Tracy Holladay  
INTERIM STAFF COORDINATOR

Margaret Pennington  
MINISTRY COUNCIL CHAIR

Lauren Blackwell  
INTERIM MINISTRY COORDINATOR

Megan Fuller  
CHILDREN AND FAMILY  
MINISTRY ASSISTANT

Robin Ramsay Lee  
DEACON CHAIR

Renee Purtlebaugh  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO CHILDREN  
AND THEIR FAMILIES

Bob Cunningham  
INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Kathleen Gordon  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Walter McWhorter  
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Justin Sizemore  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR TO YOUTH  
AND YOUNG ADULTS

Paul Henderson  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF MUSIC  
AND WORSHIP

Joseph Parr  
ORGANIST AND MUSIC ASSOCIATE

Invitation to Worship Paul Henderson

**LET TRUTH AND MERCY FIND HERE A JOYFUL MEETING PLACE**

Prelude arr. Robert Sheldon

*An American Hymntune*  
Highland Orchestra

Call to Worship—based on Jeremiah 17:7-8 Joey Eubank (8:45)  
Stephanie Hall (11:15)

We are invited to be those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

**When we trust, we become like trees planted by water,**  
roots finding nourishment and life by the stream.

**When temperatures rise or drought threatens, the stream is our sustenance and hope.**

The Lord is the source of our hope and life.

**Holy are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. Let us worship God together.**

Processional Hymn (315) † MIT FREUDEN ZART  
*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

Prayer of Praise † Joey Eubank (8:45)  
Stephanie Hall (11:15)

Glory to the Creator † MEINEKE

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Spirit, One.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**LET MERCY'S GENTLE MANNER SO WILLING TO FORGIVE,  
FILL WARRING HEARTS WITH LONGING**

A Lesson from the Psalms Paul Henderson  
Psalm 1 (Pew Bible page 479 – OT)

Prayer of Confession Renee Purtlebaugh

**Holy One, sometimes it is hard to rely on the roots of our faith to anchor us at the water's edge.**

**We do remember your goodness, your promises, and even your Love. But living as if we believe it gets challenging when the waters are rising and rushing toward us. Forgive us, and re-center us.**

**Nudge our minds, bodies, and spirits into that place of sacred memory where we can both recall and find rest in the love and care you have for Your own. Amen.**

Choral Assurance arr. Mary McDonald  
*I Must Tell Jesus with Blessed Assurance*

I must tell Jesus all of my trials; I cannot bear these burdens alone; In my distress He kindly will help me;

He ever loves and cares for His own. I must tell Jesus, I must tell Jesus, I cannot bear my burdens alone.

I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus! Jesus can help me, Jesus alone. This is my story, this is my song

praising my Savior all the day long. This is my story, this is my song praising my savior all the day long.

Exchange of Peace † Renee Purtlebaugh

† *For those who are able, we invite you to stand*

Hymn (631) † DONNA

*O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

**LET TRUTH'S BRIGHT FLAME BE BLAZING  
IN ALL THE DARKEST HOURS**

The Gospel Lesson † Justin Sizemore  
Luke 6:17-26 (Pew Bible page 63 – NT)

Sermon  
*Standing on Level Ground*  
*Children grades K-2 may be dismissed for Children's Worship (11:15)*

**SO NOW LET PEACE AND JUSTICE BE NEVER FAR APART**

Hymn of Response (692) † AURELIA  
*Let Truth and Mercy Find Here*

Mission Moment and Offertory Prayer Larry Hoover

Offertory John Tatenhorst  
*Poem for Orchestra*  
Highland Orchestra

News for the Community Justin Sizemore  
In response to your decision, **we welcome you! We covenant to be the family of God for you in this place. We hope to learn from you, give to you, and receive from you, as we journey in faith together.**

For the ministries that shape the life of our community, **thanks be to God.**

Doxology † OLD HUNDREDTH  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One, Amen.**

Benediction † Justin Sizemore

Postlude Jean Guilain  
*Pièces d'Orgue pour le Magnificat; Suite du 2me ton, Dialogue*

In worship at Highland, we aim to sing music with a theology that reflects an expansive and inclusive God. Occasionally, our printed music may use language that limits God. When we are unable to re-print a more inclusive text, we encourage you to use language that better fits your image of God. Our ministers and choir will often replace “He/Him” with “God” or “Love” (1 syllable) and “Father” with “Parent,” “Holy,” or “Divine” (2 syllables). We would love to hear what creative language for God you might use in worship, too.